P . C14903

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE reason reason of:

KOJI NAKAGIRI, et al.

Application No.: 09/698,052

Filed: October 30, 2000

For: INFORMATION PROCESSING

APPARATUS, INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

STORING COMPUTER-READABLE)

PROGRAM THEREIN : January 26, 2001

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the following U.S. Application:

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APPLICATION NO.

FILING DATE

GROUP ART UNIT

09/182,474

October 30, 1998

2722

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(iii), a copy of the application specification, claims and drawings for the foregoing U.S. Application is enclosed.

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Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 42,746

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, New York 10112-3801 Facsimile: (212) 218-2200